

MARVEL

523

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WIERINGO  
KESEL

THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMIC MAGAZINE!

# Fantastic Four®

RISING  
STORM  
PART 4 of 4



Ringo!  
KESEL  
ISANOVE



# THE FANTASTIC FOUR

4

A team—and a family—of adventurers, explorers and imaginauts, the Fantastic Four lead lives both ordinary—and extraordinary. As of today:

3

In a failed attempt to protect them from the world-eating cosmic menace known as Galactus, Reed Richards hastily constructed a device which swapped Johnny's Human Torch abilities with those of his sister, the Invisible Woman.

2

Johnny, inspired by the similarity of Galactus's origin to the FF's, helped rebuild the device on a unique, never-to-be-repeated scale, allowing Reed to briefly strip Galactus of his five-billion-year-old cosmic power...

1

...leaving behind a ticking time bomb known only as Galen.



STAN LEE PRESENTS

## RISING STORM



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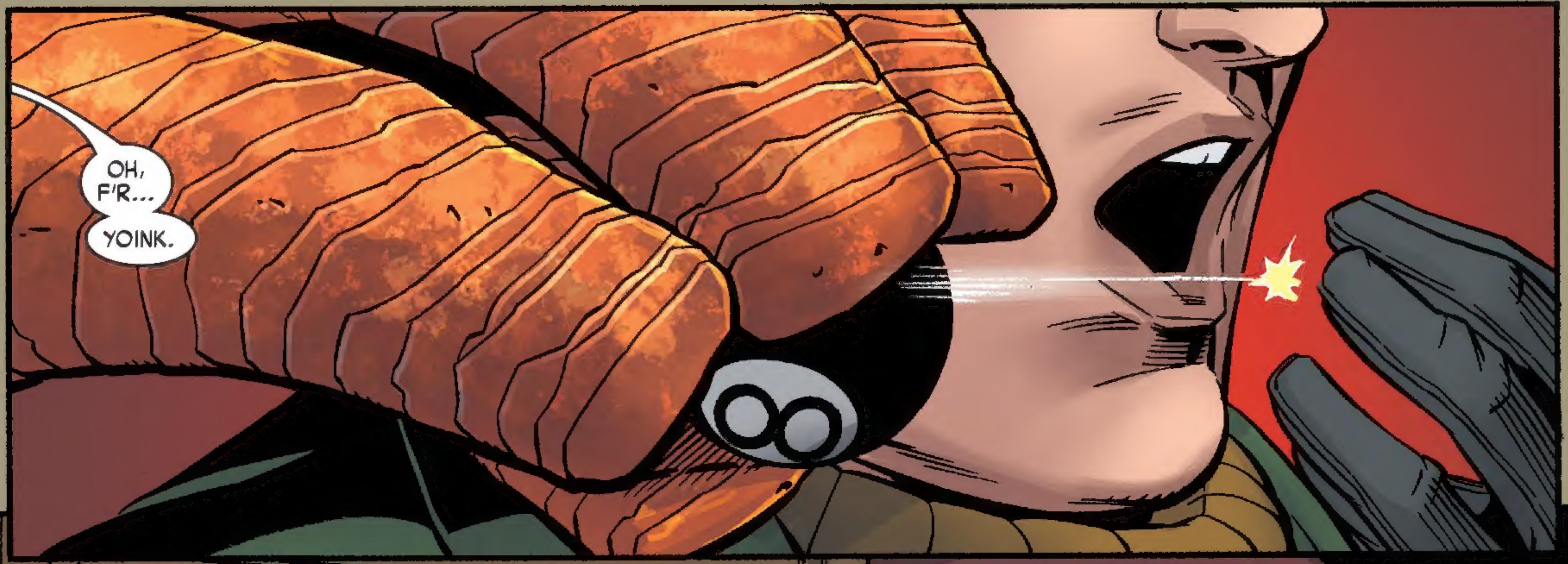
PART  
4 of 4

"MAKE NO MISTAKE.  
THE ESSENCE OF  
GALACTUS STILL  
EXISTS. THE UNIVERSE  
IS NOT OUT OF  
DANGER, AND ENTIRE  
PLANETS ARE  
STILL IN PERIL."

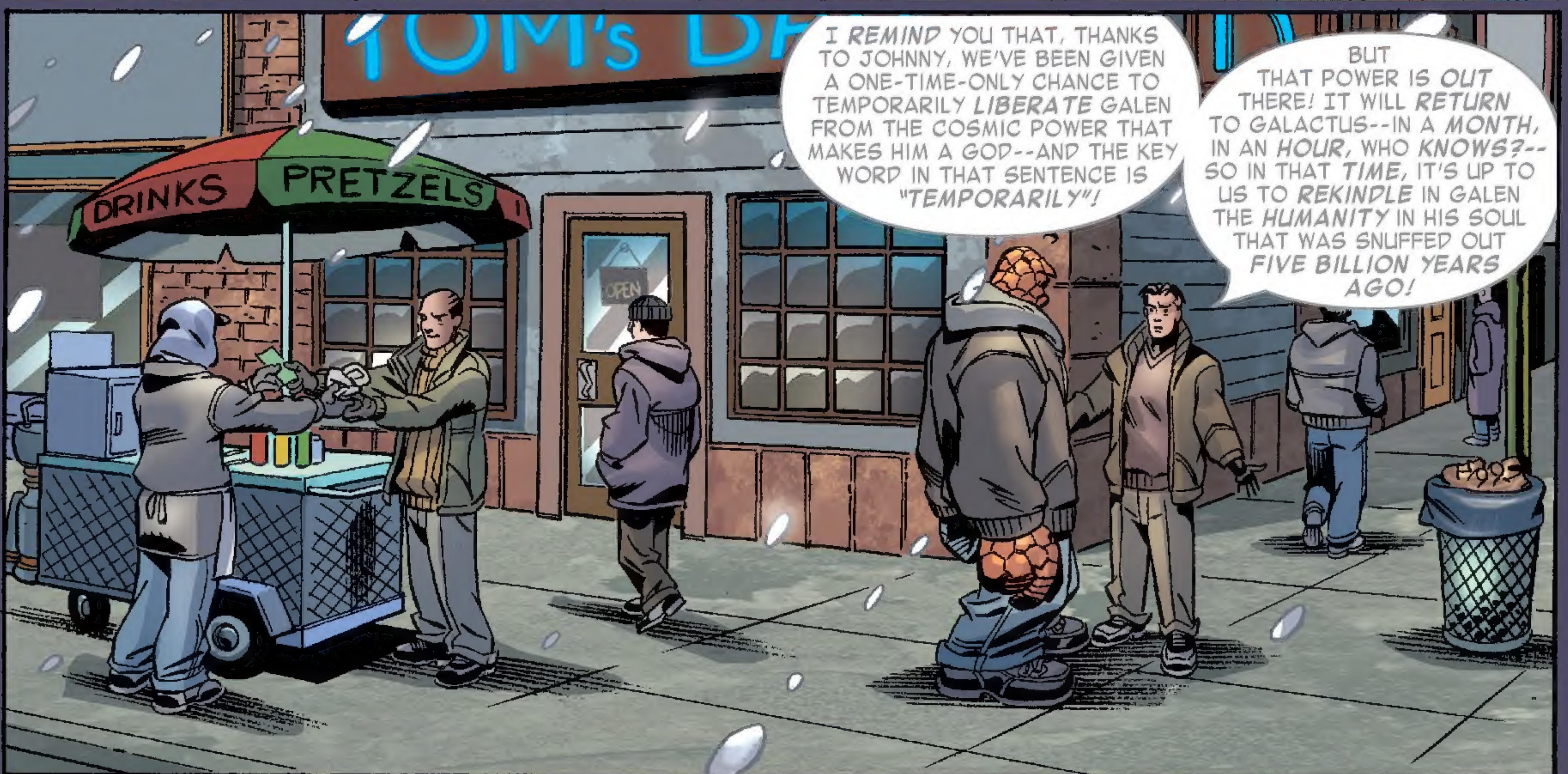
"GALACTUS MAY,  
FOR THE MOMENT,  
NO LONGER BE THE  
GREAT DEVOURER OF  
INNOCENT WORLDS--

--BUT HIS  
HUNGER  
REMAINS  
INSATIABLE."

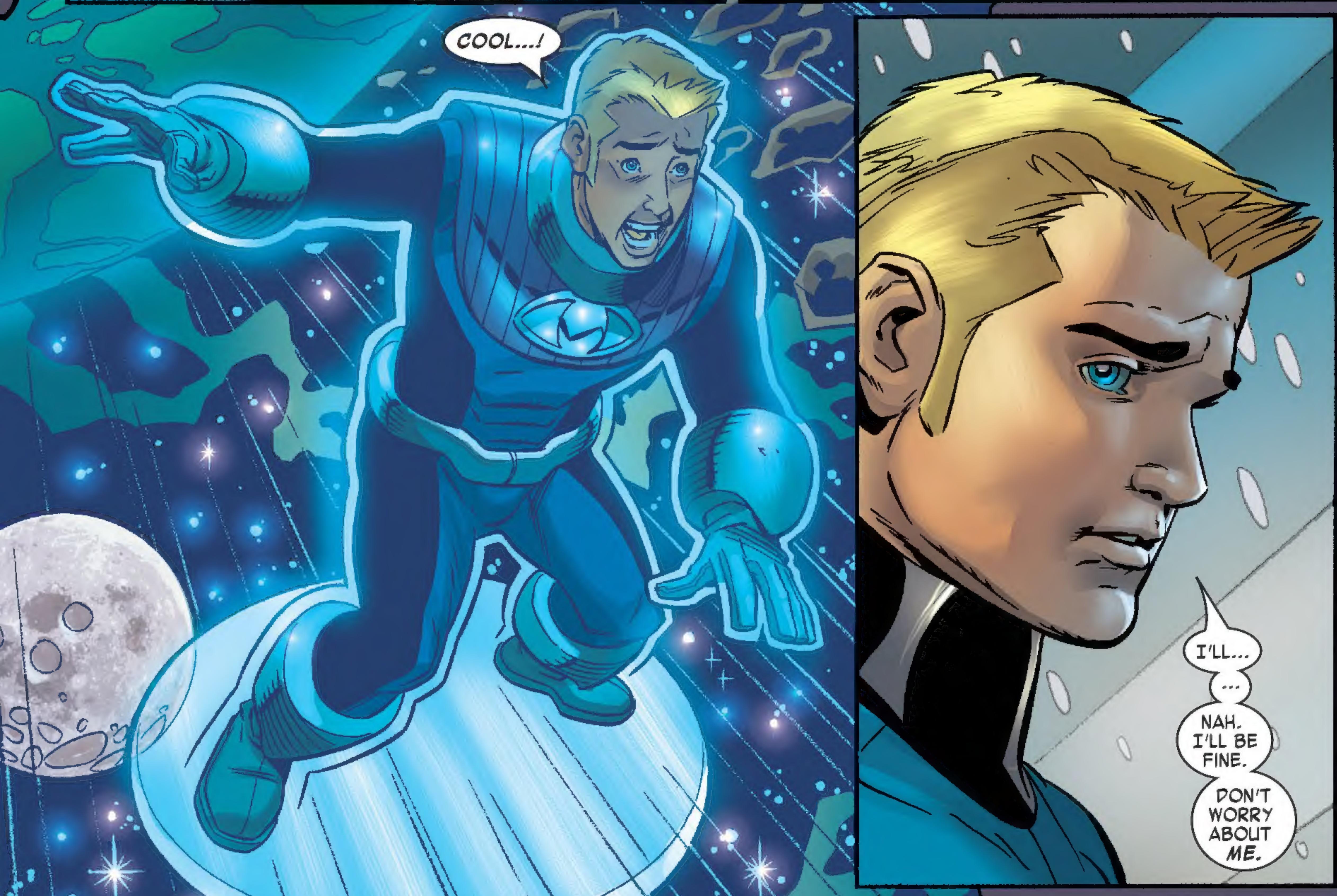
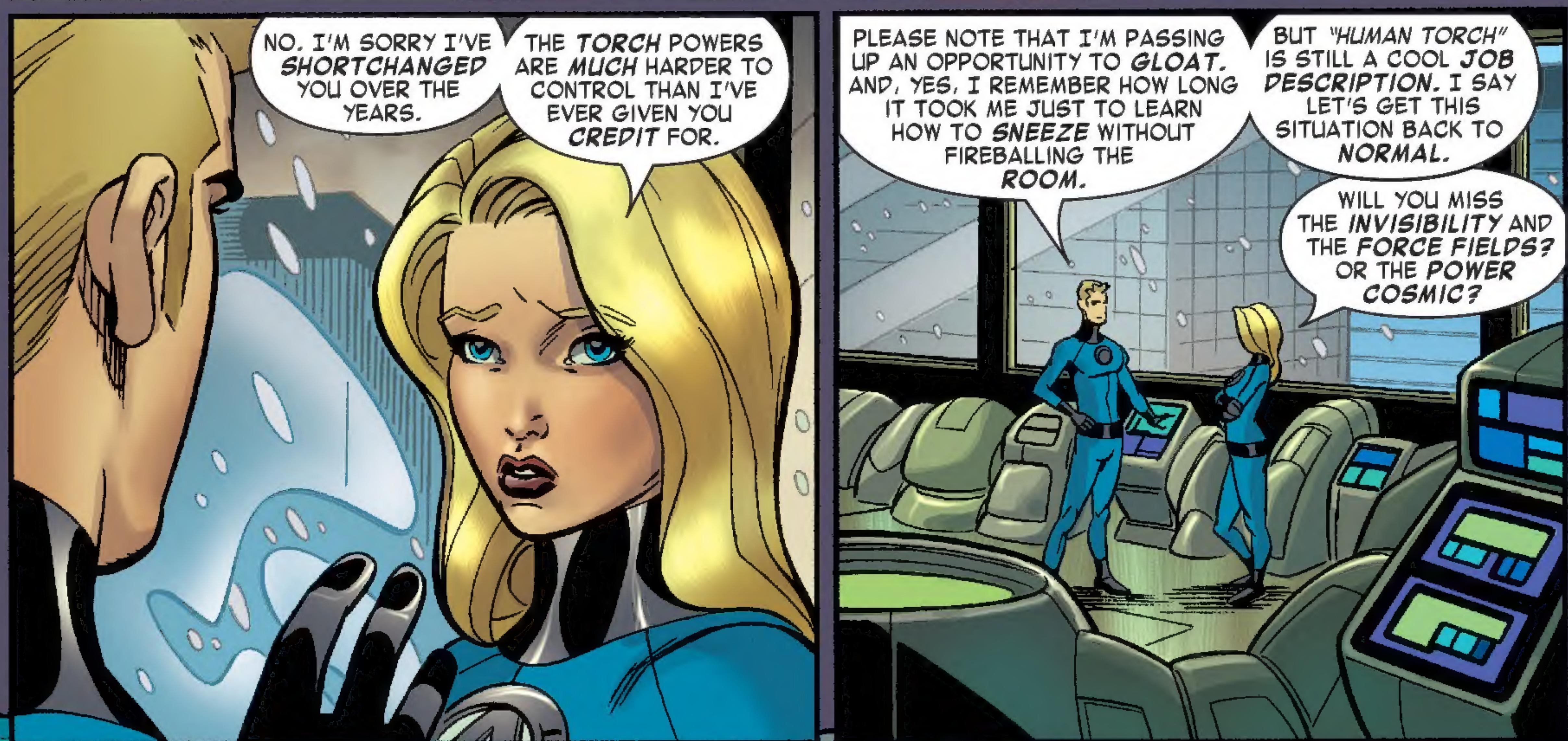


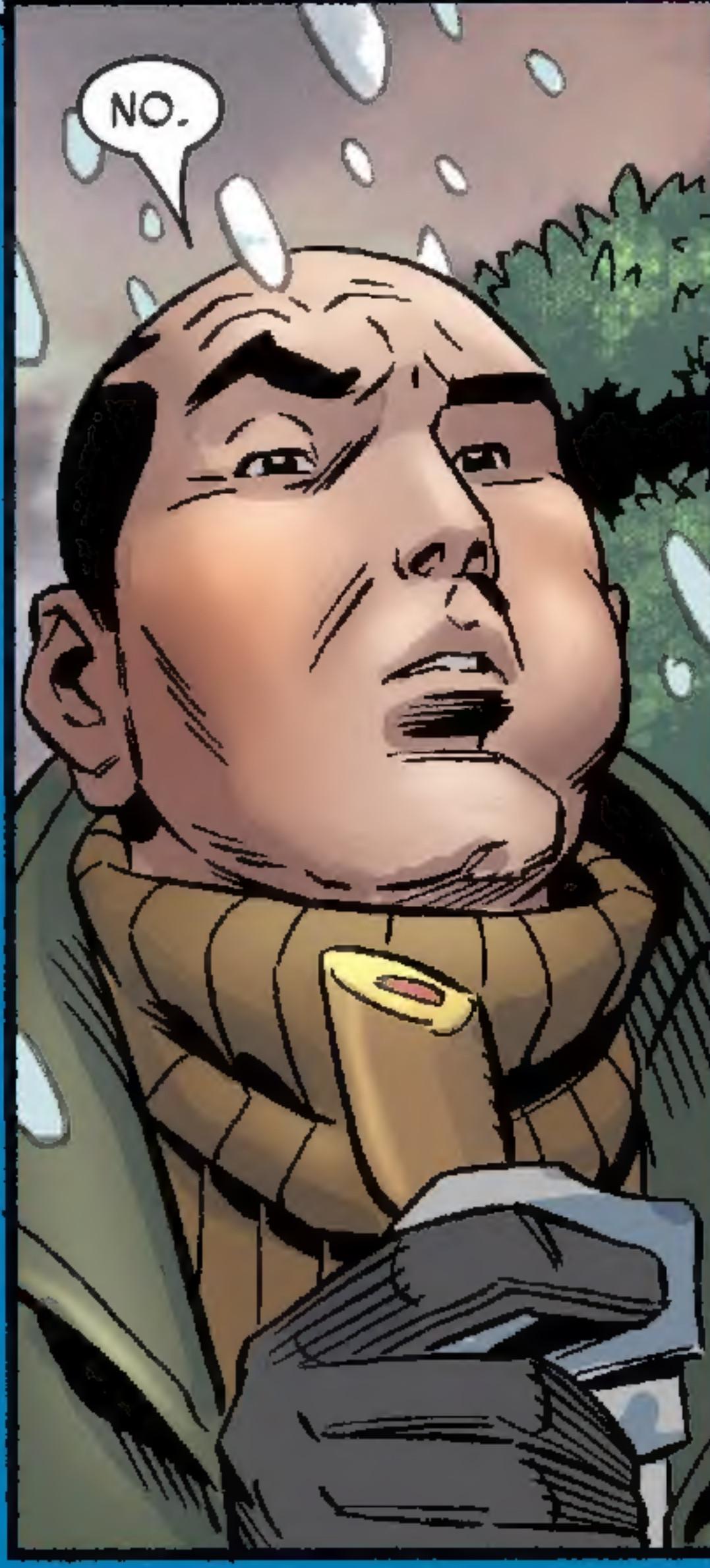


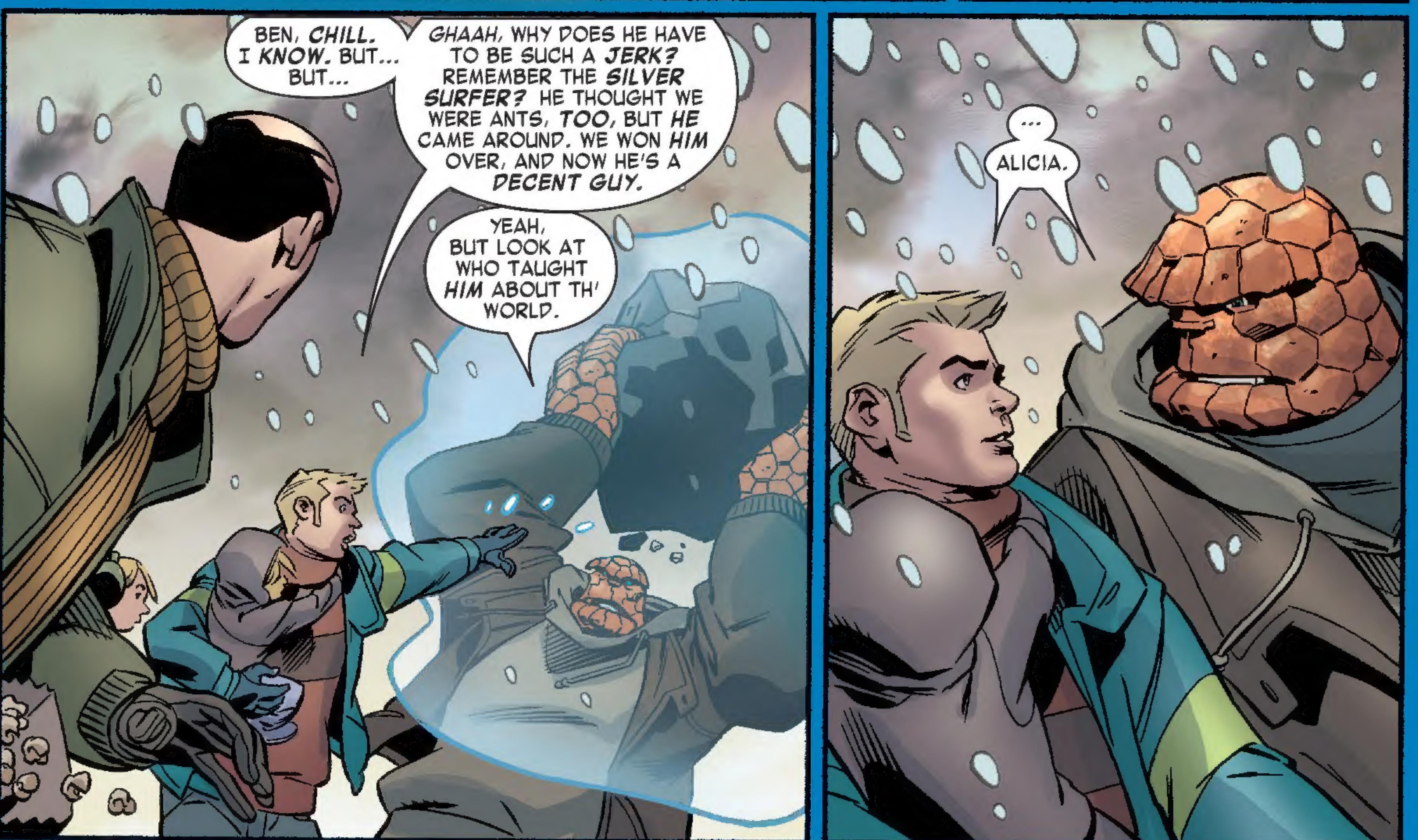


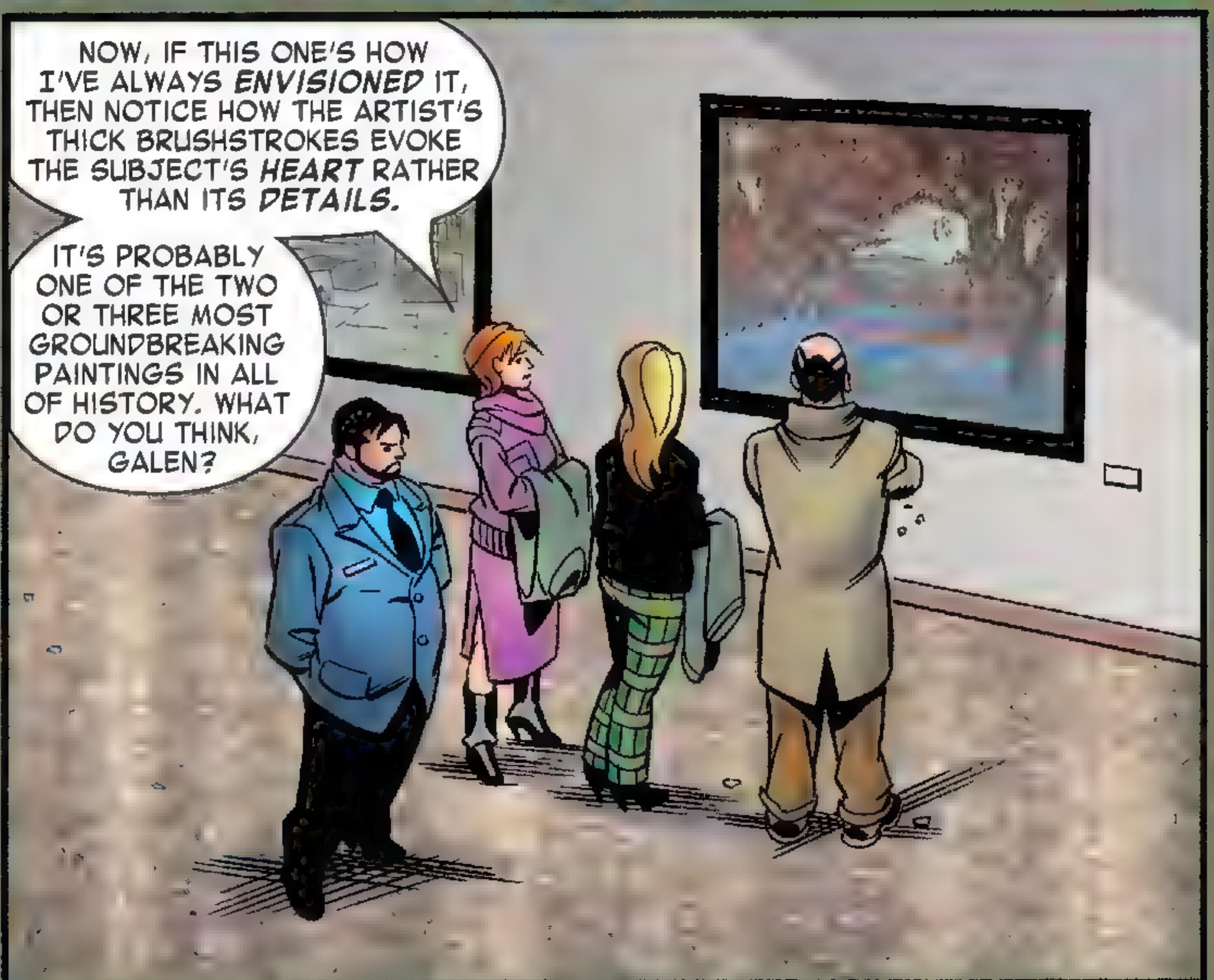
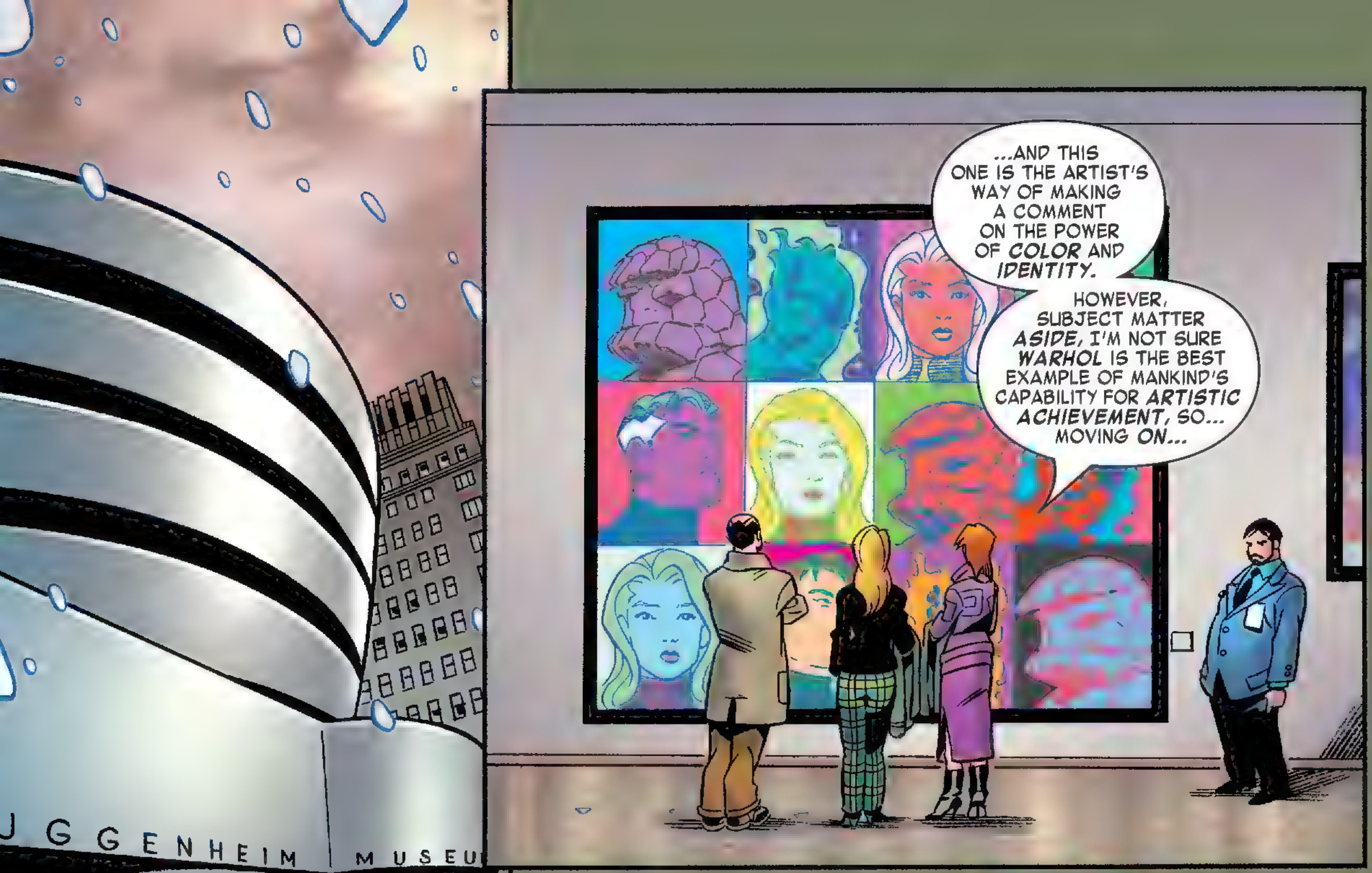












IT'S...PEDESTRIAN WORK. RATHER UNREMARKABLE.

IF THIS IS THE BEST THE HUMAN RACE CAN EXPRESS ITSELF...

...EH.

NONETHELESS, I SUPPOSE YOU CAN BE EXCUSED YOUR OPINION GIVEN YOUR OCULAR SHORTCOMINGS.

NEXT, YOU'LL TELL ME THAT THIS GROTESQUERIE IS WORTH MY ATTENTION.

PROBABLY NOT THAT ONE. CHARMING FRIEND YOU HAVE HERE, SUSAN. MOVING ALONG...

YOU'RE PUSHING IT, BUDDY. DID NO ONE EXPLAIN WHY ALICIA'S SO ELOQUENT ABOUT ART? GALEN, SHE'S ONE OF NORTH AMERICA'S MOST ACCOMPLISHED SCULPTORS.

THAT STATUE YOU JUST INSULTED, FOR EXAMPLE, IS HER PIECE.

REALLY? IF SHE'S BLIND, WHY WOULD SHE EVEN ATTEMPT SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

WHY WOULD SHE NOT SIMPLY SURRENDER HERSELF TO HER AFFLICION?

YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND.

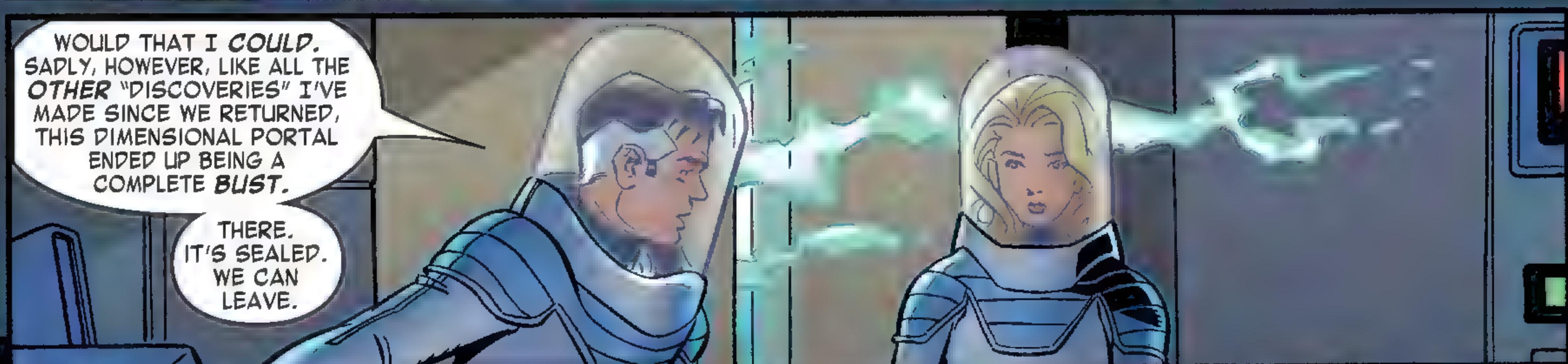
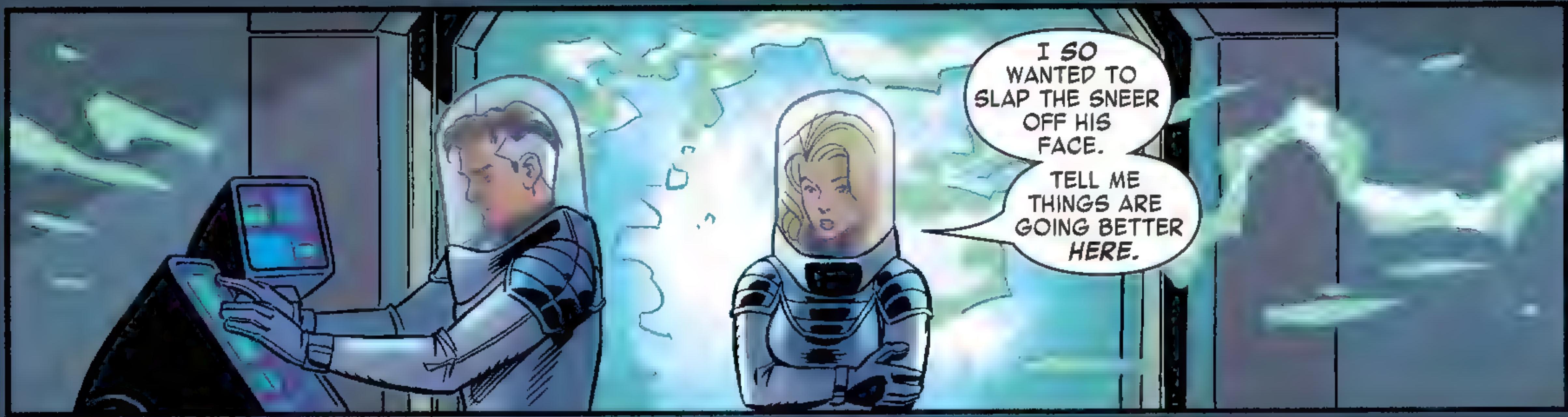
THIS IS A CEZANNE. NOTICE HOW MUCH CAN BE SUGGESTED WITH SIMPLE FORMS AND COLOR PLANES. HIS TECHNIQUES FORMED THE FOUNDATION OF MODERN PAINTING...

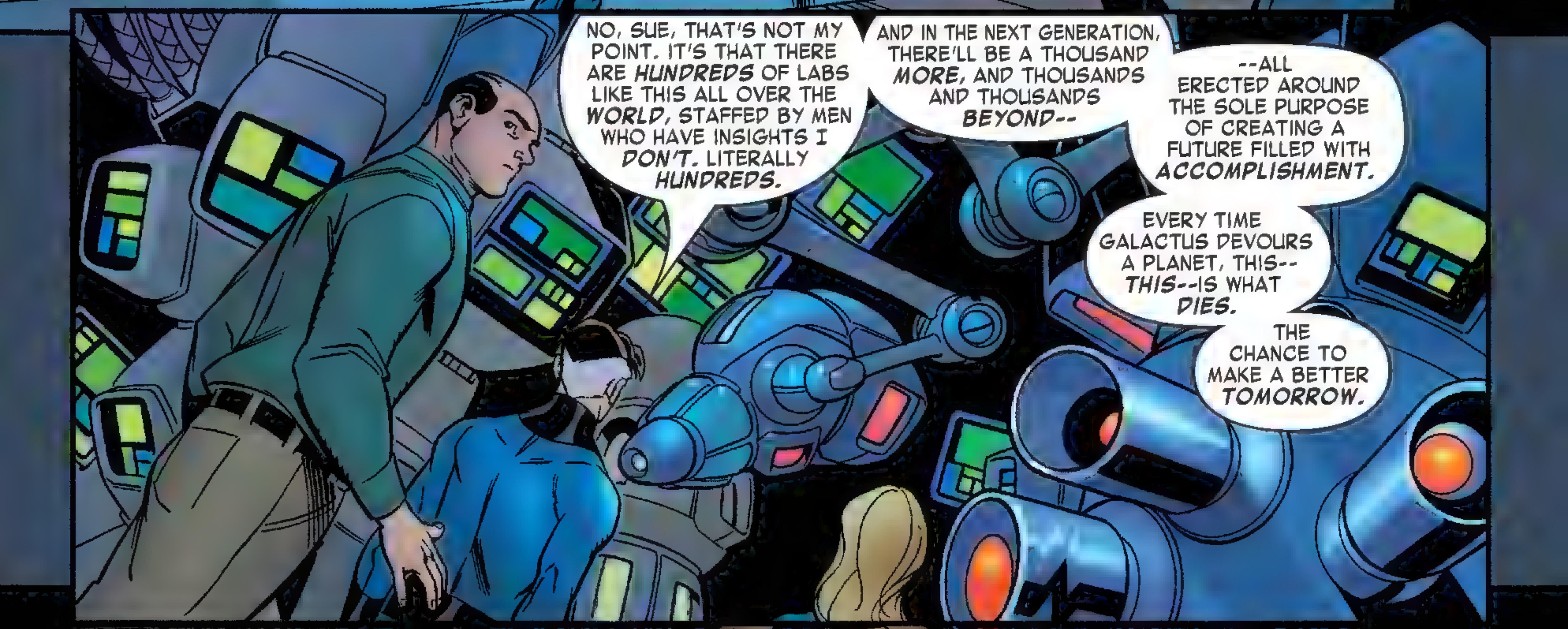
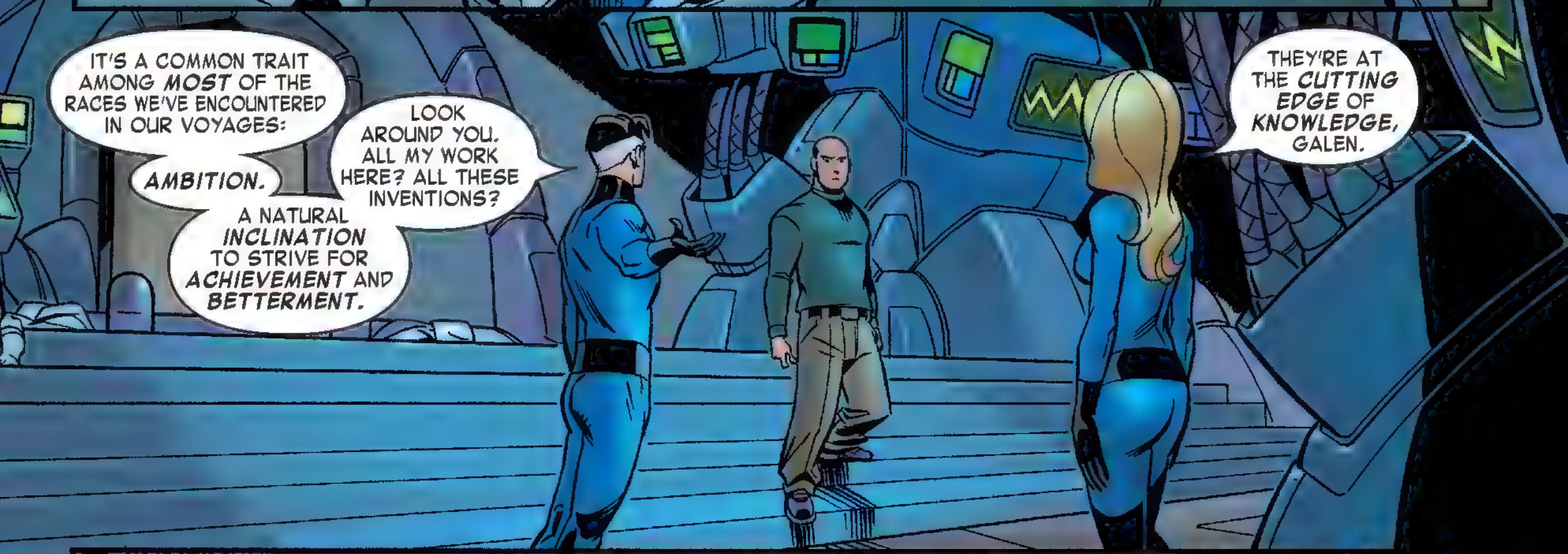
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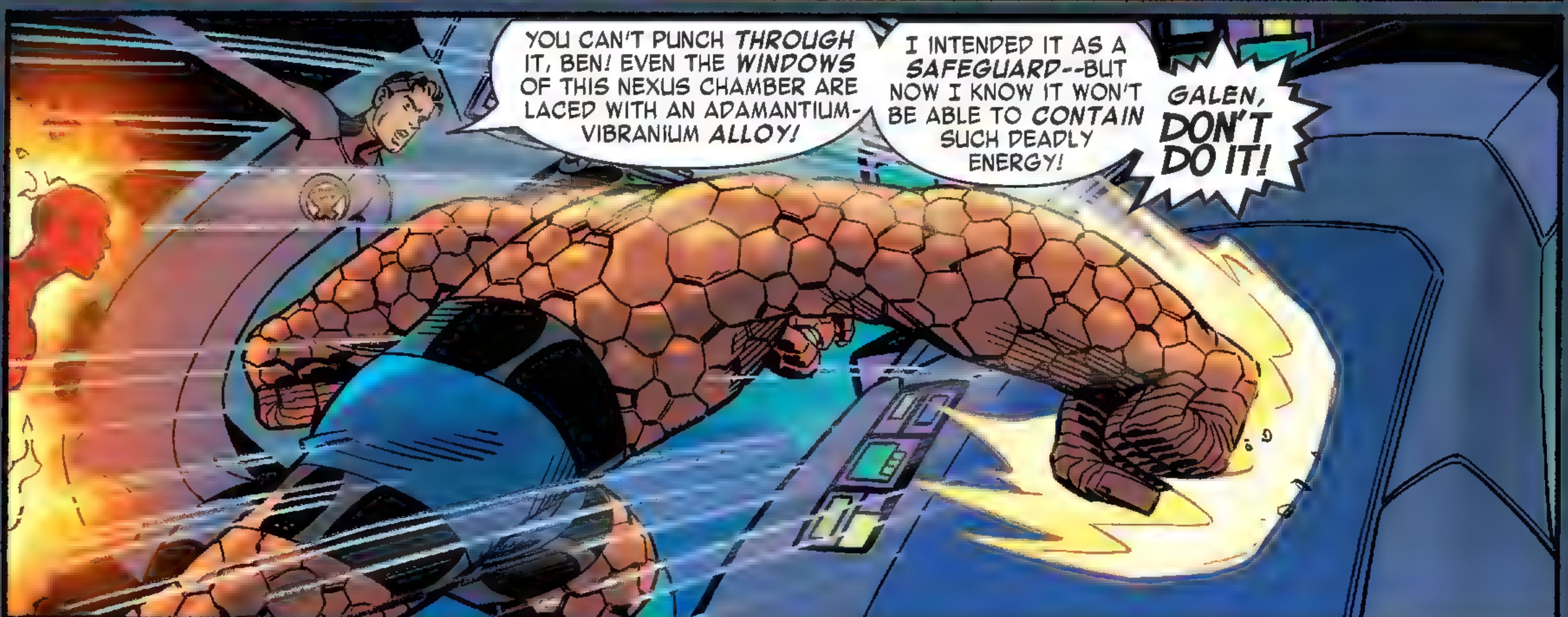
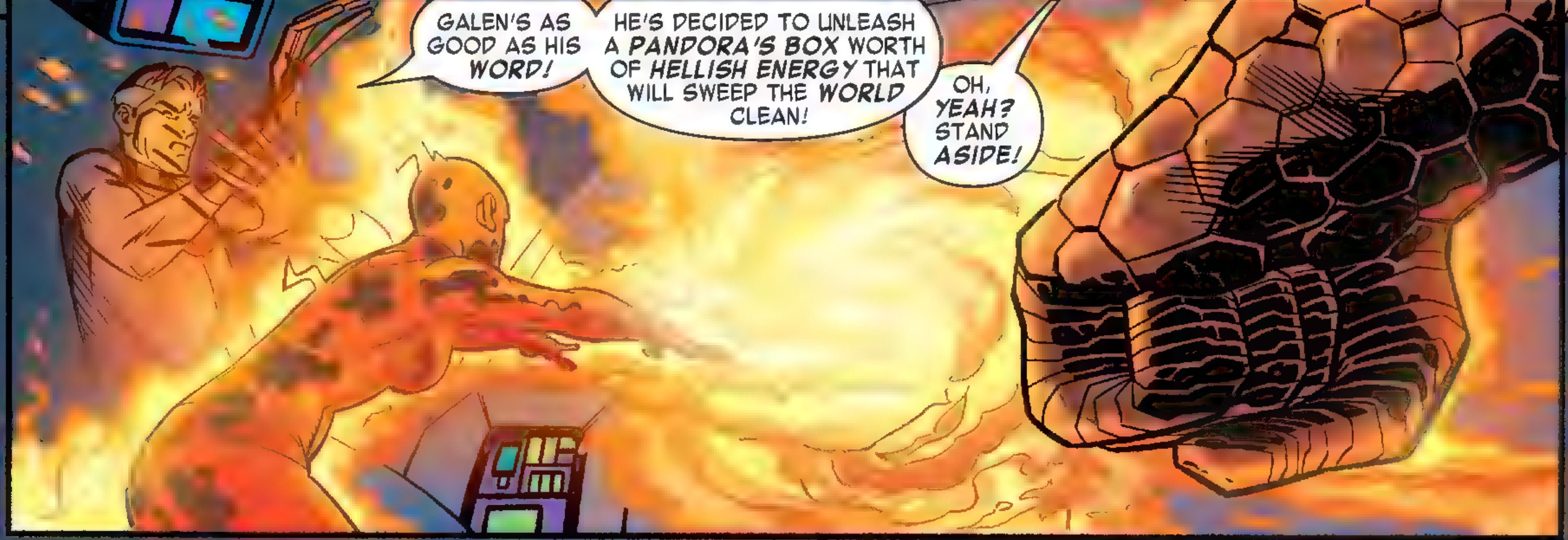
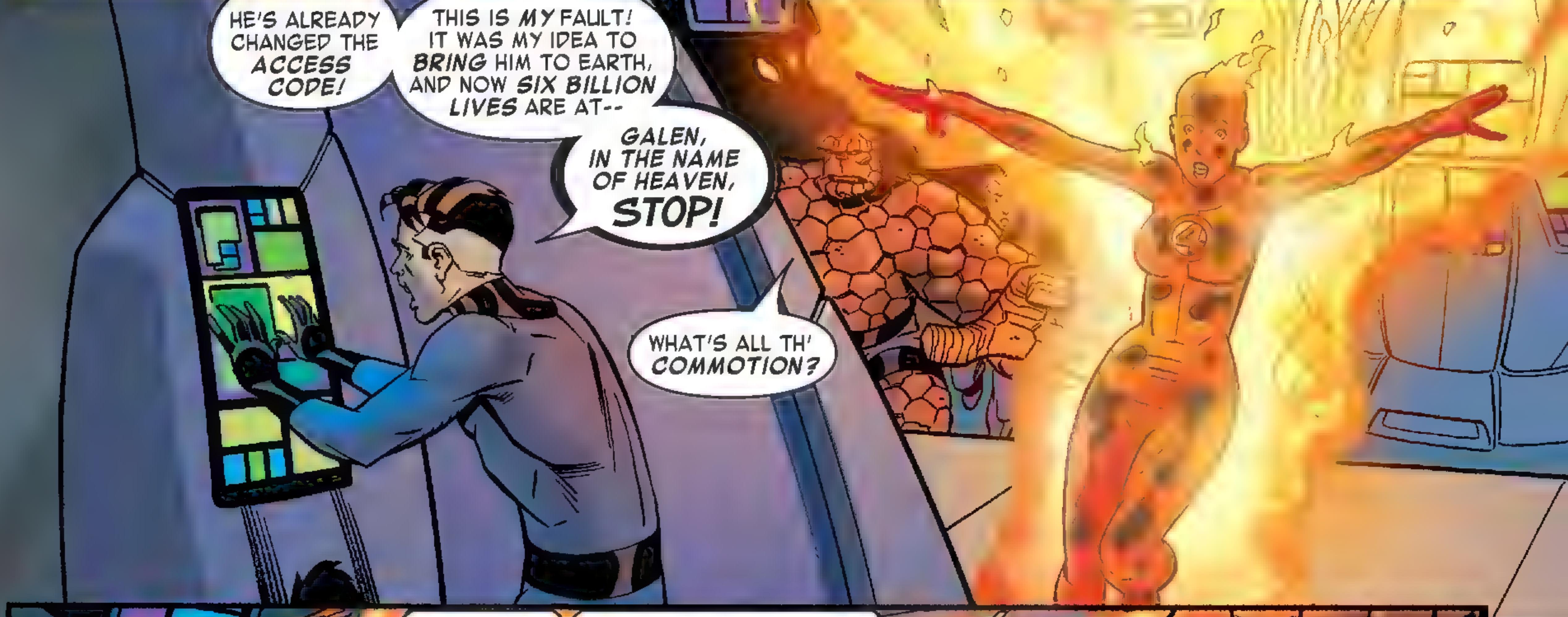
"AND SO WENT THE REST OF THE DAY. ALICIA AND I DID OUR LEVEL-BEST TO SHOW GALEN AS MUCH OF THE MAGIC OF NEW YORK LIFE AS WE COULD IN ONE AFTERNOON--"

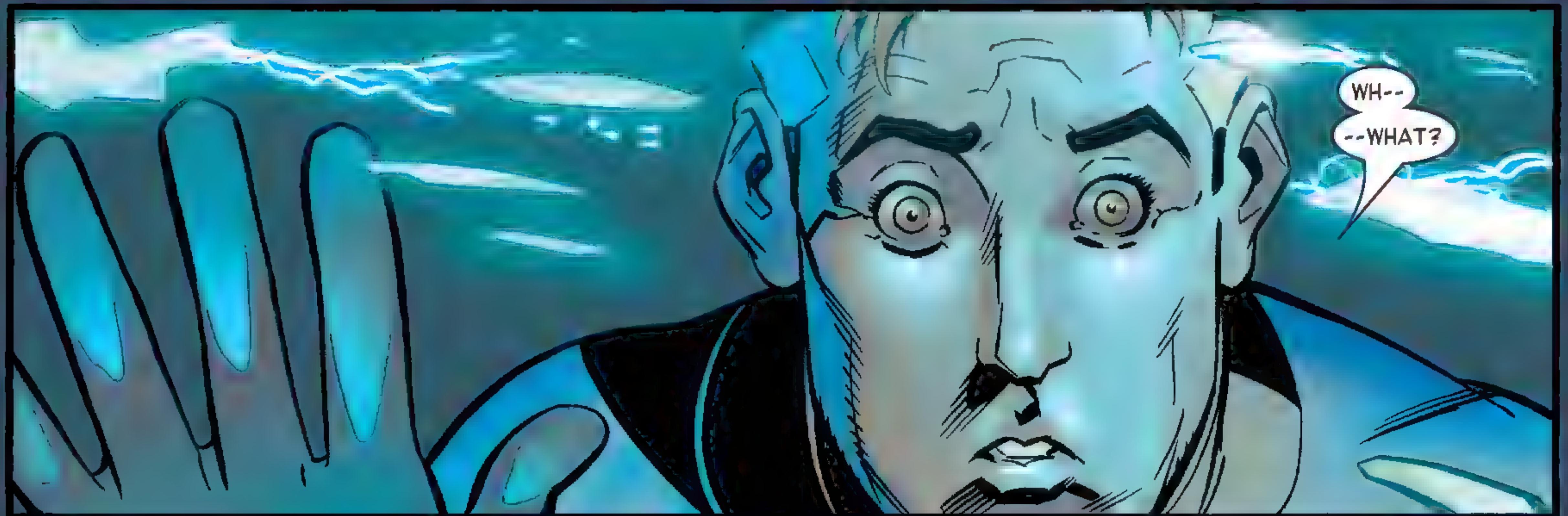


"--BUT EVERYWHERE WE WENT, GALEN SEEMED TO FOCUS ONLY ON SOCIETY AT ITS MOST BROKEN--ALMOST AS IF HE WERE LOOKING FOR THINGS TO BE CONTEMPTUOUS OF."









YOU HAVE ONLY YOURSELVES TO THANK. YOU'VE ALL SPOKEN OF IT REPEATEDLY IN YOUR OWN WAY, AND ONCE I REALIZED WHAT I WAS LOOKING AT, I SAW IT EVERYWHERE:

THE INDOMITABLE SPIRIT OF THE HUMANOID ORDER.

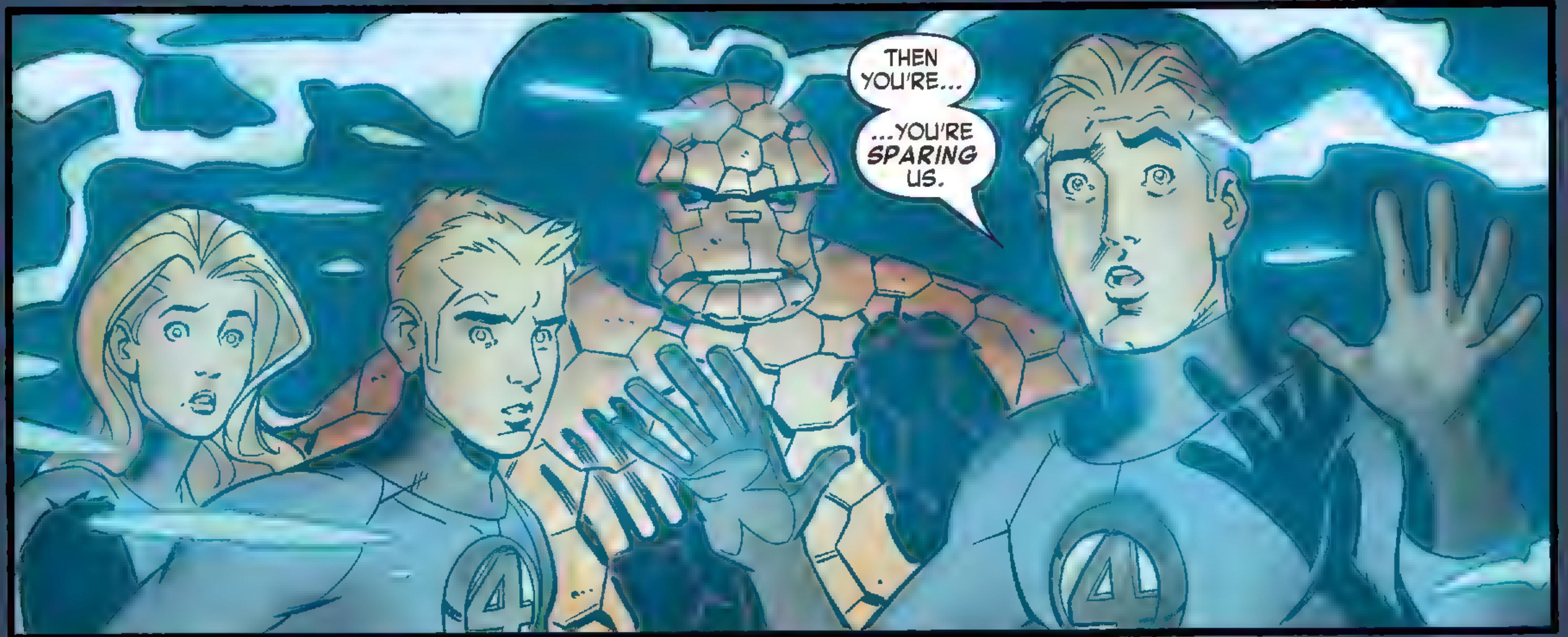
THE INABILITY OF MANKIND TO SURRENDER BEFORE THE LOCKSTEP MARCH OF A HOPELESS FUTURE.

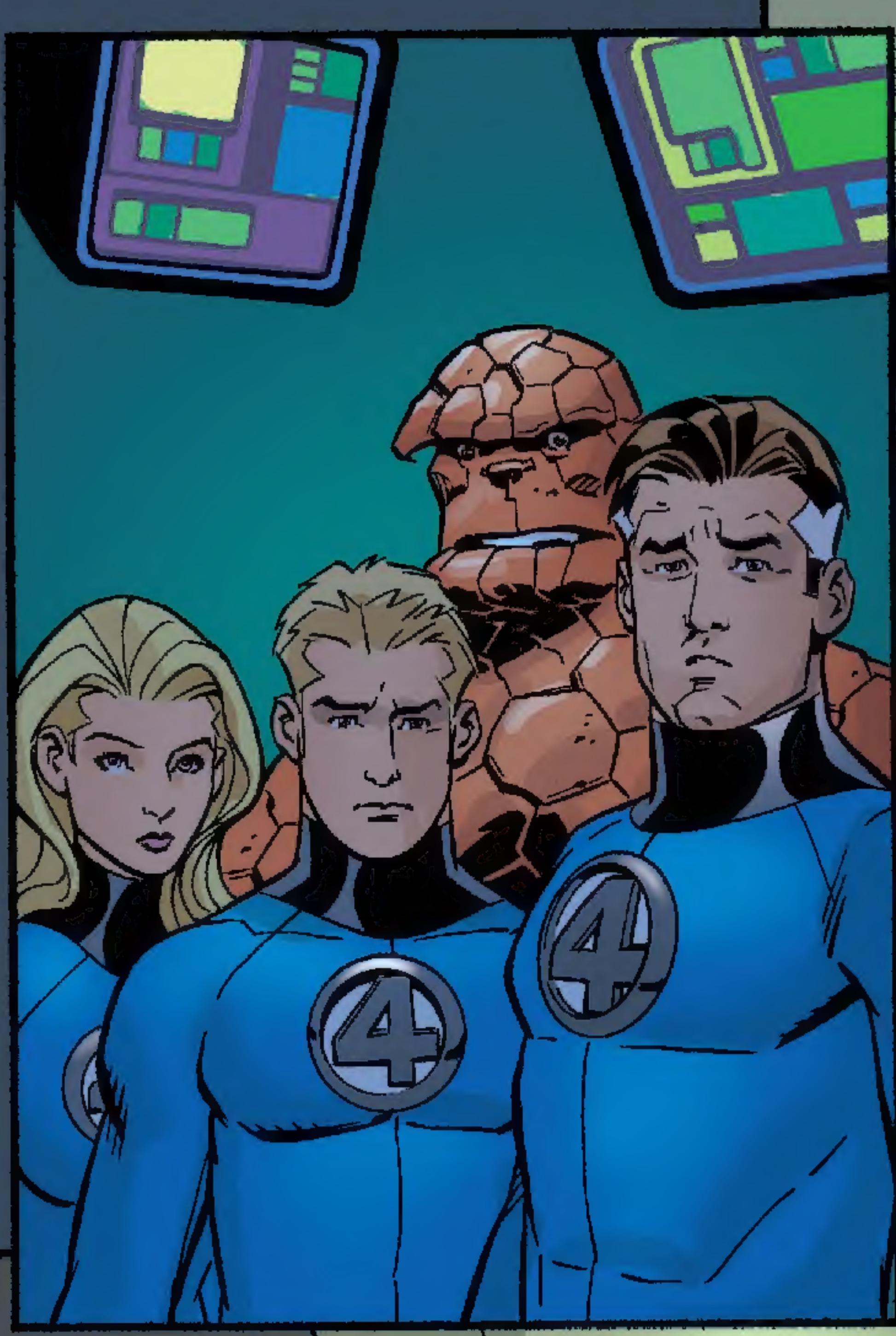
EVEN THE WEAKEST, MOST POWERLESS AMONG YOU UNDERSTANDS THE FIERCE NEED TO FIGHT BACK THE DARKNESS OF ENTROPY WITH EVERY BREATH, RICHARDS. THAT MUCH HAS BECOME CLEAR TO ME.

THAT, MORE THAN ANYTHING, IS WHAT I RECOGNIZE WITHIN THE BEINGS OF THIS UNIVERSE--

--AND WHO AM I TO EXTINGUISH IN YOU THAT WHICH LIES WITHIN MYSELF?









THERE MUST STILL BE A TRACE OF POWER COSMIC IN JOHNNY'S CELLULAR STRUCTURE--NOT ENOUGH TO DETECT, BUT ENOUGH TO FOUL THE--

